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3 May 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Agency Participation on Federal Mapping Task Force

1. The Federal Mapping Task Force was convened on 17 April by Mr. Donelson, OMB. Membership is made up of representatives of DoD, Interior, NOAA, and Agriculture. Work was initiated with a wide ranging discussion of the nature and scope of the study, its complexity and a delineation of its parameters. The discussion was channelled into the preparation of an outline for the collection of information on the objectives and products, on the size of the resources utilized and cost incurred by nearly 50 different agencies directly or indirectly engaged in some aspect of basic mapping and charting. With this information in hand the Task Force plans to review the programs, products, and processes undertaken by these various agencies in their activities, the relevance of their mapping activities to their agency mission. While the main objective of the Task Force is being directed to a modernized rationalization of civil mapping resources, a major factor in this evaluative process will be the availability, use, and value of intelligence source materials and their impact on any proposed reorganization.

2. Agency participation will be directed to questions and problems arising from the assumption that the availability of US intelligence collection resources to the civil mapping agencies will bear significantly on the review and reorganization of civil mapping missions and production activities. Such representation will include (1) Agency assessments of the implication to national security resulting from the flow of classified information into public channels through US maps, data catalogs, and tapes, (2) Agency validation of US civil requirements competing for intelligence collection resources, (3) formulation and negotiation of Agency security constraints on procedures and techniques required in the use of classified sources materials for unclassified civil products, (4) providing intelligence information and judgments on the problems of establishing liaison between US and foreign mapping agencies, and (5) monitor the development of plans to rationalize the incorporation of satellite earth resource data into a reorganized civil mapping activity.

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